

SPORTS

Waxers take the Spirit out of Stouffville attack

Russ Herrington breathed a sigh of relief after Thursday's Provincial Junior A Hockey League game against the Spirit of Stouffville at the rec centre.

The Waxers' head coach was relieved to see his club snap a three-game losing streak after they skated off with a 5-4 win over the Spirit.

Chris Petracco led the way with a pair of goals, including one on a power-play effort in the first period. Rob Mazzucca and David Colucci added power-play goals while Greg Chambers scored once for the Waxers, who held leads of 3-2 through 20 minutes and 5-4 after 40. Anthony Minicucci scored twice for the Spirit, while Jon Smyth and Chris Large added singles.

"We've definitely got the monkey off our back. That was nice to see," Herrington of his club which improved its record to 5-4-1-1.

Herrington felt the games turning point came late in the second period

when their forechecking kept the Spirit offence at bay.

"The last six minutes of the second period, Stouffville didn't get out of their end. And once we got our fifth goal, our physical and mental play picked up."

The game also marked the debut in a Waxers' uniform of Jeremy Wentzel, who was obtained from Collingwood for the rights to Ben Buxton and cash. Spending the last two seasons with the Milton Merchants, the 20-year-old goalie started the game and played well.

Winless in their last three games, Spirit head coach Brian Perrin felt his club failed to cash in on finishing plays.

"We're definitely creating chances, but we're just not finishing them. Hockey is a game of inches. Right now the games not going our way," he said.

The Spirit return to the rec centre on Oct. 28 to play the Huntsville Wildcats.

The Waxers, meanwhile, will play in Pickering tomorrow at 7:30 p.m.



STAFF PHOTO/SIGERD WITTEVEEN

TAKING A HANDS-ON APPROACH

Stouffville District Secondary School's Hanna Flemming, left, and Father Michael McGivney Academy's Andrea Duncan battle for possession of this loose ball in Wednesday's YRAA junior girls' basketball game at Stouffville District Secondary School. The visiting Magic won the game 39-37. Duncan was high scorer for the Magic with 24 points while Flemming replied with 17.

Islanders tame Tigers in final

A goal by Dwight Smith in the final minute of play, and strong goalkeeping from Melissa John proved to be the difference as the Markham Islanders minor peewee AA's defeated the Streetsville Tigers 1-0 in the recent Mississauga tournament final.

The Islanders went undefeated in the tournament as they recorded wins over the West Mall

Lightning 7-2, Vaughan Panthers 5-2, Humberview Huskies 4-2 and the Mississauga Terriers 2-1.

Scoring for the Islanders were: Dwight Smith, four goals; Peter Min, three goals; Ryan Rudge, Scott Fletcher and Andrew Butler, two goals; Franco Salvatore, Stephen Antolin and Paul Barbetta, one goal.

Also contributing to the club's success were: goalie Geoff Guinn, Jesse McClure, Dave Poole, Adam Zorzatto, Greg Payne, Taylor Strype and Evan Piccolotto.



Cardinals lose close one in Lyons' finale

The Brother Andre Cardinals senior boys' football team wanted to give outgoing head coach Terry Lyons an appropriate send-off in Thursday's road game with the Woodbridge College Wyverns.

The Cardinals could not deliver on the final score, which resulted in a 34-18 loss.

But Lyons felt the effort was there right until the final whistle.

The Cardinals held a 6-0 lead after one quarter and at the half were tied at 12-12.

The game remained close until the final quarter when the Wyverns scored two majors, including one with just 10 seconds left to break the game open.

Giancarlo Benanato, Victor Reynoso and David Saigogek each had majors for the Cardinals, now 2-3 on the season.

"The score was not indicative," Lyons said as his club amassed 450 rushing yards in the game. "I thought we had a great game and I thought the kids played their best game of the season. I think they're finally getting on track."

DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

EVAN SHAPIRO



In just his third year of playing football, Evan Shapiro is making his presence felt with the Markham Raiders atom squad.

The 12-year-old Markham resident who toils as a running back with the Raiders has amassed 25 touch-downs this season in just nine games.

Not only is Shapiro a strong running back, but on defence he toils as a linebacker and has made many key tackles.

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